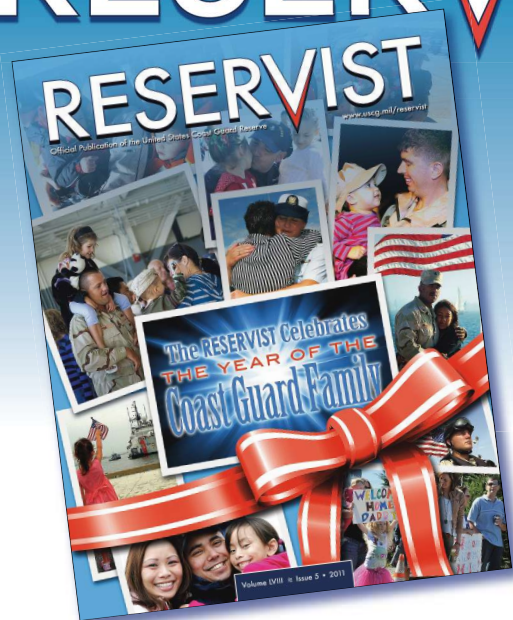


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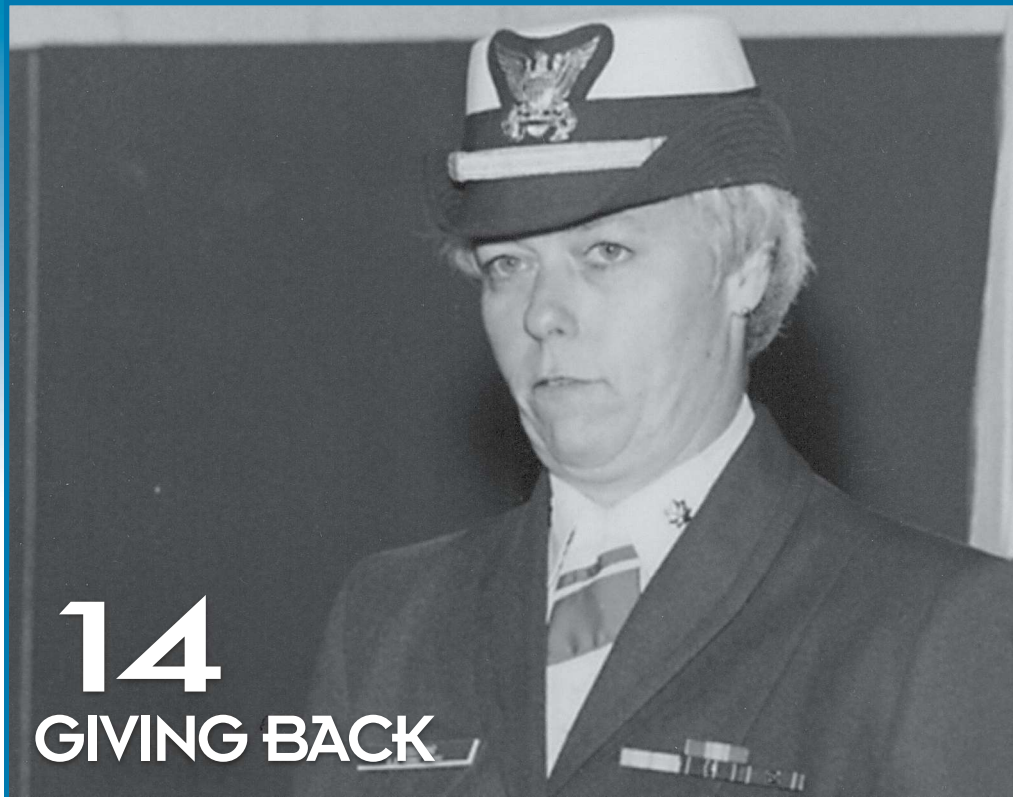


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The RESERVIST Celebrates
THE YEAR OF THE
Coast Guard Family

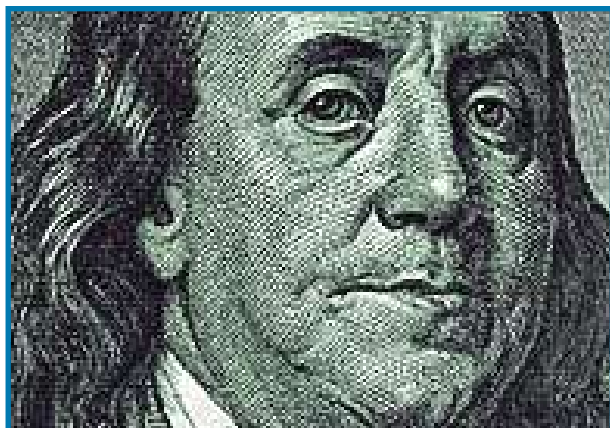
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2010
Thomas Jefferson
Award Winner



Magazine-Format
Publication
(other than flagship)

2011
PIAS Award of
Excellence



Publishers Press
&
Reservist Magazine

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FROM THE EDITOR



Life is funny. Last summer I retired from the Coast Guard Reserve ending a 38 year career that began on November 21, 1971 when I enlisted in the Massachusetts National Guard. At that time I was working in the newspaper business as the Sports Editor for a local weekly newspaper. Eight years later I would find myself as a member of the United States Coast Guard Reserve and a fledgling entrepreneur attempting to launch a graphic arts company: a company that would evolve into a marketing communications firm serving a broad spectrum of clients for more than twenty years.

So what's so funny about that? Well, when I retired last fall, I had been here in Washington, DC on active duty for over nine years. With my marketing business days well in the rearview mirror, I was unsure of exactly what I wanted to do next. An opportunity to fill a one-year temporary civilian position within the Office of Reserve Affairs presented itself, and I was fortunate enough to be selected. In September I was extended to work on a number of special projects. Less than a month later the former *Reservist* Editor, Isaac Pacheco, accepted a prestigious position with the State Department, and I was asked to step in as Interim Editor. As I said, life is funny.

While it is only temporary, I am honored to be able to work with a team of dedicated professionals to produce what is arguably the finest Reserve Component – some might argue any component – publication, the *Reservist*. There are a number of initiatives underway to look at how the magazine might better serve our readership and help the Coast Guard and the Reserve Program, specifically, to communicate their goals and objectives. As with any change or transition there are sure to be bumps along the way, but rest assured the primary goal of the *Reservist* remains to ensure that you, the reader, continues to receive the pertinent information on things of importance to you, your shipmates and your families.

Semper Paratus!
Jeff Smith

Letter of the Month

Signing Off

Reservist Editor Accepts Position with State Department

Recently, I had an opportunity to sit down with a number of military veterans to reflect upon how their lives have changed in the ten years since 9/11. I was struck by the range of responses, but also by the similarities between their stories. Every veteran I spoke with mentioned feeling a need to contribute, to do something that mattered, to make a difference.

Our special feature in the last issue of *Reservist*, highlighted a similar group of service members, those who realized their vision to make a difference in the wake of 9/11. The entire issue demonstrated how the Coast Guard, particularly the Reserve, has evolved since those attacks, and how the service is positioning itself to tackle future challenges.

I, too, am looking toward the future. This past issue of *Reservist* was my final as editor, and I am grateful for the opportunity I have had these past two years to tell the Coast Guard Reserve's story. Whether covering recruit training in Cape May, documenting oil spill clean-up in the Gulf of Mexico, or participating in flood response efforts in the Midwest, I've been motivated by the work reservists do, and driven to convey the importance of that work to our readers.

As I begin my next adventure as the chief of the U.S. State Department's Magazine Division, I hope to continue working closely with members of the Coast Guard community. I greatly value the relationships I have built with the reservists with whom I have been privileged to work, and look forward to reading more about your continued successes in future issues of the magazine.

Finally, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the dedicated men and women who make up the Coast Guard. Your tireless work keeps our country protected against emerging maritime threats, and better prepared to deal with natural and man-made disasters as they arise. It has truly been my honor to work with each of you.

Semper Fi & Semper Par,
Isaac D. Pacheco



Note: Isaac Pacheco served as the Editor of the *Reservist* for the past two years. During his tenure the magazine received numerous awards including the prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award. We thank Isaac for his excellent work and wish him well in his new position with the State Department.

Navigating in the Digital Age

The letters below are a sampling of the continued response – both pro and con – to our announcement to move to an all-digital (on-line) delivery of the *Reservist* Magazine. In response to this feedback, we have determined a more deliberate approach will help both the magazine and its readers navigate what is clearly a significant change in a long standing and mutually beneficial communications relationship. We encourage you to take a look at our 2012 transition plan on page 34 of this issue. We also encourage you to continue in the dialogue as we work together to provide effective and efficient communications in the digital age.

(Continued on page 34)



Going Digital -- PROs

I am fine with viewing the *Reservist* magazine on-line. You can stop sending me a copy via mail. It is a small sacrifice in order to help reduce government costs.

Thank you.

SKCS T.A. Green (Ret.)

Bravo Zulu! I just read the electronic version of Issue 4, 2011 of the *Reservist*. It is absolutely outstanding. In my 17 years in the USCG and USCGR the publication was never this well done. The content is timely and interesting. And, the presentation is both attractive and easy to read. Keep up the good work.

Capt. John Curtis, USNR (Ret.)

A quick note of praise to the staff of the *Reservist* on continued great work. I did want to comment on the note in the Letters section of the 2011 Issue 3 regarding the possibility of a paperless future. I do applaud this initiative and can understand the benefit of the associated cost reduction. However, I just want to note that I for one do enjoy the paper copy for one reason because my travel schedule means that I tend to accumulate several periodicals and catch up during "dead" time (such as in the belly of an airplane). I have had several periodicals that have gone all digital and can say that I don't read those as much (because they are not in my "to read" travel folder). However, as the digital future comes more of age and I get more into it (I haven't even bought an iPad yet), I can see that I may be more apt to read digital copies as long as they are "on my radar" when I get to the point of catch up. Due to the higher demand from others to quick sending the print copy, you may send out more of a

survey for people to "opt out" or "opt in" for the present time.

Lt. Cmdr. E. Eric Mills, USCGR

Going Digital – CONs

Are the Active Duty USCG publications I see throughout Headquarters also going to a digital-only format at the end of 2011 along with the *Reservist*?

Lt. Cmdr. Nan Silverman

When I joined the USCG it was often stated that, "If the Coast Guard wanted you to have a wife, they would have issued you one." Well, if the Coast Guard wants to go paperless, then issue me a computer.

Also, I was at Travis AFB the other day and noticed a copy of the *Reservist* laying on a table of reading material at the hospital. What a great recruiting aid. How is that going to happen 'paperless'?

Gregg Collins

I noted with sadness the Editors statement in the Issue 4, 2011 edition of the *Reservist* which said that the paper edition would be discontinued at the end of 2011 and only an online edition would be published starting in 2012.

I retired from the Coast Guard Reserve in 1997 after 20 years of service, but it was nice to have some small link left to those who still actively serve in our Coast Guard Reserve. The *Reservist* magazine was that link for me, and doubtless many others who have retired. Perhaps it is a generational difference or perhaps it is just motivational but is very unlikely that I or many others so removed by retirement will remember to hunt it down online and read the articles. Getting the magazine in the mail motivated me to

read every page. I remember getting the *Reservist* in my BOQ mail box on Governors Island NY in 1977 as a plain black and white publication that had little flash and a few articles. It has indeed come a long way since then.

I understand that these are difficult times for everyone when it comes to the budget. I think the decision to go with only an online version of the *Reservist* is probably necessary, but it will greatly diminish the scope of its readership. I am sorry to say that in all likelihood I will forget to go online to read the stories.

My respect for those who serve will not be diminished by the change, but I am sorry that their story will no longer arrive on my doorstep and compel me to read them in full.

Lt. Cmdr. John J. Hannon, USCGR (ret)

Honoring PS2 Vincent Danz

My name is Robert E. Swanson. I am a retired Coast Guard reservist having served over 41 years in the CGR. I retired in 1992 as a Master Chief Petty Officer. In civilian life I served for 27 years in the New York City Police Department and retired in 1990 as a Lieutenant-Special Assignment. For more than half of my police career I was assigned to the Emergency Service Unit where I was a patrolman, sergeant and lieutenant.

I just received and read the latest copy of the *Reservist* magazine. Just as other CGR retirees as well as active duty reservists I look forward to reading the *Reservist*. It acts as a method of still "keeping in touch" with a significant part of my life that I am very proud of.

Letters cont. pg. 34



Bollinger Shipyards, Inc., personnel prepare to begin the builder's sea trials in the Gulf Coast Monday, Nov. 28, aboard the Coast Guard Cutter *Bernard C. Webber*, the Coast Guard's first Sentinel-class Fast Response Cutter. Builder's trials included both pierside and underway machinery and equipment tests, conducted by the shipbuilder, to demonstrate the seaworthiness and functionality of Webber's systems, including main propulsion, command and control, navigation and others.

Photo by PA3 Cory Rowland



The View



Captain
Kent Bauer

Chief,
Office of Reserve Affairs

“...The Coast Guard Reserve will continue to evolve and adapt to provide relevant multi-mission surge capacity.”

When authoring an article, particularly as the calendar is about to change from one year to the next, there is a tendency to trot out the usual clichés of, “a fresh start”, “a new beginning”, and the like. Yet, sometimes what appears to be a well-worn phrase is indeed the appropriate choice. As I put pen to paper, I believe that to be the case today. Simply stated, opportunities often present themselves in tough times and the current environment is no exception.

As we enter 2012 even the most casual observer is aware of the debate about dealing with long-term fiscal solvency while balancing national, state and local priorities with those of the American taxpayer. Clearly, this debate is having and will continue to have an impact on the Coast Guard’s (CG) budget writ large and Reserve appropriation specifically. And, while no one particularly likes dealing with declining budget scenarios, they can provide focus and clarity about what is truly important.

In that vein it is imperative that under RDML Callahan’s direction we continue to be thoughtful and effective stewards of Coast Guard monies. Each of us, from Headquarter’s program managers to field level Reserve Force Readiness System (RFRS) staffs to individual Selected Reserve members has a role to play in this endeavor. We must be diligent in our efforts to ensure that the 1.4% that Reserve training represents of the CG total budget provides American taxpayers with the high return on investment they have come to expect.

In all likelihood the Nation’s current and out-year fiscal environment will continue to exert downward pressure on the budgets of federal departments and agencies to include the CG. This will require the Service to make important choices with respect to how to best shape its workforce, while mitigating risk to its ability to meet its statutory requirements particularly in the area of surge or contingency operations. If the decade since the attacks of September 11, 2001 has validated anything, it is the value proposition provided by the Coast Guard Reserve (CGR) to fill both short and long-term surge requirements. As noted above, the current Reserve training appropriation represents less than 2% of the total CG budget, yet the 8,100 Reserve force represents most, if not all, of the Service’s “in-garrison” military surge capability.

So how does the specter of tightening budgets against a back drop of what appears ever increasing demand (Haiti, DWH, Arctic, etc.) for CG capabilities translate into opportunity for the Reserve Component? Having repeatedly proven to be a reliable and flexible force, particularly in the twenty years since the First Gulf War, the CGR will continue to evolve and adapt to provide relevant multi-mission surge capacity. This is what the American people have come to expect from our Coast Guard and what we will deliver. In fact, all of you are already about the business of making this a reality. Building on the administrative, management and training infrastructure of RFRS, the Concept of Reserve Employment (CORE) has begun the hard but important work of working with program managers and field commanders to ensure training of Reserve personnel is focused and structured to meet likely utilization for surge and contingency operations. The stand-up of the DOL-31 RFRS staff will help define the role of more than 900 Reserve billets within the DCMS world-of-work, how they gain and maintain proficiency through support of steady-state CG missions and employ those skills to provide short and long term surge response. Finally, the Deployable Specialized Forces Stem-to-Stern review will help sharpen the focus and capabilities the Reserve Component has successfully brought to the CG’s national defense role both overseas and at home.

In closing, I wish to thank each and every one of you for the dedication and professionalism you display each and every day. I have no doubt that those attributes will lead you to fully explore and leverage each opportunity that comes your way.

On Deck

So the Question is: Are You Ready? We have all heard this statement – some more than others. But what does it really mean? Is it Administrative Readiness - you know, your PHA, dental, weigh-ins, ASQ, influenza shots, evals, MT and the list can go on. Is it Personal Readiness – do you have a Will, a Power of Attorney, is your family prepared to handle your affairs while you're away for an extended period of time? Or is it Operational Readiness – are you certified and qualified to perform the functions and meet the mission when recalled?

The answer is all three. To be truly ready, you must be ready in all three areas. I once read that Readiness is like a three-legged stool; to be useful, all three legs must be sturdy. Each leg is equally important as the others and if any one of the legs is unsteady, your ability to perform and perform at a sustained level will suffer.

Administrative Readiness:

Over the past several years the Coast Guard has spent a tremendous amount of time, money and energy on improving administrative readiness and as a result, we have seen impressive success in improving readiness numbers. We have created CGBI with a host of reports that track any one of a dozen metrics, created the Senior Enlisted Readiness Advisors in the field and the Reserve Force Readiness System Staffs at the sectors to manage and monitor our readiness. With all the focus on administrative readiness, I am confident that you have a solid understanding of your responsibility to monitor and maintain personal administrative readiness.

Personal Readiness:

Do you have a Will or a Power of Attorney? Do you have child care plans in place? Have you detailed your bills and where your banking relationships are located? Are you and your family prepared to handle your affairs while you are deployed? Have you and your family discussed family issues related to separation? Personal Readiness includes establishing plans for child care, pet care, financial preparation, legal preparation, housing and vehicle maintenance as well as employer education plans. To be personally ready, you should have a plan in place to cover these items as well others that you and your family consider important. Equally important is to regularly review the plan with your family to ensure that nothing has changed. The more you and your family prepare now the better prepared and less stress will be created for you and your family when the call comes.

Operational Readiness:

Do I have competencies assigned to my position? What are my competencies? What training do I need to achieve qualification in the competencies? Am I qualified and certified in my assigned competencies? Am I working on advancement? Operational Readiness means that you are trained, or are training for, the qualifications you are required to possess for your rate and rank when recalled. In addition, it means that you have all the required personal protective equipment and uniforms when called. Your readiness starts with the creation of your Individual Training Plan (ITP), which includes plans for formal schools, IDT and ADT. Once your plan is established, your IDT drills and ADT periods should be focused on completing the requirements for your position. By creating your plan, updating it regularly, and executing it, you will move toward both advancement and operational readiness. So operational readiness starts with you and a plan!

It's not *if* you get recalled, it's *when*; and by preparing now, you will be ready to perform the mission at a high level.

Well, are YOU ready?



Master Chief
Kurt Shoemaker

Reserve Command
Master Chief
9th District

**"I once read
that Readiness
is like a three-
legged stool,
to be useful,
all three legs
must be
sturdy."**



Fleet Watch



CPOA Reserve Class XXVIII Makes History

"You have an obligation to participate in the Chief's Mess and you have far more to offer than you may realize."

-- from CPO Academy opening morning introduction

September 30th, 2011 was one of the most satisfying days of my tenure at the Chief's Academy. That night, MCPO-CGRF Mark Allen and I celebrated the success of our 28th Reserve Class graduation and watched our annual throughput for Reserve members exceed 130 for the first time in its history. The CPO Academy graduated 760 Chiefs in CY 2011, and we are on track to graduate 738 in CY 2012.

Since opening in 1982, the CPO Academy graduated 182 Active and 28 Reserve classes. Due to the length of the course and inability to leave civilian employment for over a month, few reservists are capable of attending a CPOA class. That changed on December 16, 1993 with the initiation of a condensed two-week class and the graduation of Reserve Class One. Since

that time, a Reserve class convening has been offered between one and three times a year with class sizes ranging from 32 to 88 students.

Traditionally, the CPO Academy holds one large Reserve class in the fall, which is a significant challenge for reservists trying to balance dual careers. Logistically, holding one Reserve class is optimal for the CPO Academy Staff. The Chief's Academy convened Class 174 on January 3, 2011 and graduated Class 182 on December 9, without any breaks between classes. After nine Active and two Reserve classes, our facilities are in need of repair and the staff needs time to implement lessons learned. While a single two-week class is sub-optimal for student's scheduling and two is not conducive to facility maintenance,

slipping another two-week course into a process that is already 49 continuous weeks appears far-fetched.

While we exceeded our highest annual throughput in 2011, 2012 will bring another paradigm shift. Rather than run continuous classes, we will run concurrent classes. The Reserve class will start in week four of an Active class, and they will graduate together. This will allow time for facility maintenance, two single-week gaps in the schedule for staff planning, and give the Reserve Chiefs three class offerings of 30 students throughout the calendar year. The course schedule for FY 12 is available on our web site and the first two Reserve class dates are posted.

As we welcome CPOA students to their first day of class, the staff offers this simple statement, "You have an obligation to participate in the Chief's Mess and you have far more to offer than you may realize." Now that we have multiple classes scheduled, Reserve chiefs will have more opportunities to participate in the personal and professional development CPOA attendance provides. It is important that Reserve chiefs seize this opportunity as the future of the concurrent class offerings will be largely dependent upon the student throughput we achieve in FY12.

While increasing options for the Reserve chief's was my primary goal, protecting the culture of the course and student experience was non-negotiable. I believe we achieved our goal. I would like to thank MCPO-CGRF (ret) Jeff Smith for his assistance and council in planning the CY 2011 schedule and MCPO-CGRF Allen for his continued support to the Chief's Academy. As my time at the Chief's Academy draws to a close I am looking forward to the continued success of our Reserve program and its contribution to developing our future chiefs.

Story by
MKCM Ed Lewis,
CPO Academy School Chief

Note: Selected Reserve chiefs who have the flexibility are encouraged to apply for attendance at any active duty convening subject to availability of AFC90 funds. For more information about the CPOA visit: www.uscg.mil/CPOAcademy.

Have project, will travel



The Reserve Reconstruction Team smooths out concrete for morale equipment at the housing complex in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

Nine members of Industrial Support Activity (ISA) St. Louis Reserve Reconstruction Team put their contingency response capabilities to work helping Sector San Juan solve a health issue at the CG housing complex located in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico during their two week Active Duty for Training (ADT) period.

The Reserve Reconstruction Team had been looking for reconstruction type work to test and hone their mobilization readiness. Sector San Juan's family housing provided just such an opportunity. Converting a sand volleyball court to concrete and then covering the concrete with a soft material maintain a valuable morale resource.

Enter the Reserve Reconstruction Team (RRT). Once the job was detailed, the RRT began working the logistical issues associated with transporting it and its equipment from St. Louis, Missouri to San Juan, PR. NESU New Orleans, ISA's parent command, worked with the Eighth Coast Guard District staff to obtain space on a HC-144A, the replacement aircraft for the HU-25. This new aircraft has a cargo ramp similar to an HC-130's although smaller and therefore more fuel efficient. Several emails and phone calls were made to determine the load and space limits of the aircraft. The Reconstruction Team has a 16 foot HC-130 compatible trailer that is typically used to deliver the tools and equipment to jobsites but that was too large for the HC-144A. A smaller 6 foot trailer was purchased and a trial interface exercise was conducted in St. Louis during the RRT's March 2011 drill weekend. Following a successful test a departure date of June 20th was locked down and return was planned for June 30th.

An unavoidable flight delay pushed the team's departure from St. Louis to early morning June 21st arriving in San Juan that evening. Sector San Juan provided logistical support for the team and had all of the rental equipment on hand. In addition, Sector Housing personnel had already begun the excavating process allowing the RRT to get to work grading, leveling, and building the forms. A day of rain caused a slight delay, but the team was able to assist Housing personnel in readying units for the arrival of newly transferred CG families. Once back on the volleyball project, the concrete was poured, leveled, finished and a general site clean-up performed prior to departure. The HC-144A brought the team safely back to St. Louis as planned on June 30th.

In addition to testing mobilization readiness against a "real world" problem set, the RRT was able to validate the Proof of Concept that a smaller trailer could be used onboard the recently acquired HC-144As to quickly deliver assistance in a smaller package. This was a true "win-win" situation for Reserve readiness and the CG personnel and their families assigned to Sector San Juan.



Commanding Officer of the new Coast Guard Reserve Unit PACOM, Capt. Willard Ellis, accepts congratulations from Rear Adm. John Welch.

Photo by PA3 Anthony Soto

Pacific Command Coast Guard Reserve Unit Commissioned

On August 1, 2011 a new Coast Guard Reserve Unit was commissioned at the United States Pacific Command (PACOM) at Camp H. M. Smith, Oahu, HI. The new unit, CGRU PACOM, was stood up under the direction and auspices of the USCG Pacific Area Senior Reserve Officer, Rear Adm. John Welch; FORCECOM; Pacific Area Reserve Forces Branch; and the plankowners of the new Reserve unit. Rear Adm. Welch presided over the commissioning ceremony in the Senator Daniel K. Inouye reception room at PACOM's headquarters, where Capt. Willard Ellis assumed command of the Reserve unit. Notable VIP's in attendance were the CG District 14 Commander, Joint Interagency Task Force-West Commander, the Hawaiian Air National Guard Commander and representatives from the offices of both of Hawaii's Senators.



The mission of CGRU PACOM is to integrate the Coast Guard's specific skills into the Combatant Commander's planning and regional security efforts in support of PACOM's mission, as well as supporting regional maritime domain awareness and international engagement efforts.

The new CG Reserve unit will provide PACOM with a cadre of trained, experienced, committed maritime professionals as a new tool for international engagement, maritime security initiatives, and other regional efforts. These CG Reserve officers will be directly involved in joint operations, international disaster response, and military exercises. This new CG Reserve unit will also help bridge the knowledge gap regarding CG operations and authorities, and develop a new generation of DoD staff officers with a greater understanding of CG capabilities and missions. Further, CGRU PACOM will enhance PACOM's response to maritime contingencies by leveraging USCG members' specialized knowledge and experience in marine environmental protection, maritime law enforcement, port security and domestic disaster response.

Coast Guard Reserve units have supported other DoD Unified Combatant Commands, notably; US Northern Command (NORTHCOM), US Transportation Command (TRANSCOM), US Joint Forces Command (JFCOM), and U S Southern Command (SOUTHCOM).

Story by Capt. Willard Ellis and Lt. Cmdr. Ken Baltz

Reserve Sector Boarding Team Making a Difference

The Coast Guard Reserve Sector Boarding Team (RSBT) of Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach and the Los Angeles Port Police conduct regular boardings of small, recreational vessels in the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach during their drill weekends. By providing day-to-day support of Coast Guard missions in the port, the RSBT develops competencies and sharpens skills for use in future contingency operations – either locally or wherever the need arises.

The boarding team utilizes both Active Duty and Reserve Coast Guardsmen, including Lt. Carter Fenstermacher, Chief James Lanigan, BM1 Richard Magana, MK2 Richard Quichocho, ME3 Justin Olson as well as partnering with members of the Los Angeles Port Police. And, this mix of full and part time professionals is making a difference. During a routine boarding earlier this year, the inter-agency team encountered four Mexican nationals who were in the United States illegally. The team detained the individuals and terminated their voyage. The detainees were transported to the Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach boat basin and transferred into the custody of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. A Coast Guard Station Los Angeles-Long Beach boat crew towed the vessel to Cabrillo Marina, where it was released to the family members of the detainees.

This is but one example of how consistent training and the hard work of maintaining certifications pay off when the time comes to execute real world operations. The opportunity to conduct joint operations with local law enforcement partners is extraordinary. Additionally, the opportunity to work in concert with other local Coast Guard units helps to maintain our ongoing and seamless working relationship.

Bravo Zulu RSBT!

Story and Photos by Lt. Cmdr. Greg Duncan, Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach; Response Dept.



Members of Sector LA/LB RSBT (l-r) ME1 Rene Gonzales, BM1 Richard Magana and Lt. Carter Fenstermacher conduct pre-boarding brief.



D1 Athletes Team Up For 200-Mile Race

Runners from First Coast Guard District commands competed in the 2011 "Reach the Beach" relay race. The 200 mile race begins at Cannon Mountain, Franconia, New Hampshire and ends at Hampton Beach, New Hampshire. Back Row (L-R) Lt. Cmdr. Doug Norstrom, IT2 James Santee, Ernest Grindle, ITC Mike Galicki (USCGR), ITC Steve Dickey, and Ens. Josh Dykman. Middle Row (L-R) Rachel Johanson and ET3 Eda Wu (USCGR). Front Row (L-R) Everett Heath, Cdr. Gabrielle McGrath, Justin West and Cmdr. Amy Grable.

Photo courtesy ITC Mike Galicki, USCGR

Communication...

District Eight Annual Reserve Readiness Workshop

Communication is the key to success, and workshops such as the District Eight Annual Reserve Readiness Workshop provide a forum for sharing information. District Eight hosted its 3rd annual Reserve readiness workshop at Sector New Orleans on August 26-28, 2011. The workshop brought together leaders and the Reserve management community to discuss Reserve-related matters and best practices.

The goals of the workshop were to lead an integrated approach to optimize the administration, training, and readiness of the Coast Guard Reserve, and to enhance mobilization readiness and execution to provide prepared and operationally ready Reserves during contingency operations. Themes of the day included the Reserve management world, contingency operations, working together, and honoring our profession. Some of the topics presented were Reserve training, orders, berthing, mobilization and demobilization, Reserve readiness tools (such as the Mobilization Readiness Tracking Tool and Coast Guard Business Intelligence), effective communication, and leadership.

The purpose of the annual workshop is to provide training, tools, and a forum for the Reserve management community to collect and share information and develop strategies to increase Reserve

readiness. The ultimate outcome is an invaluable network of resources. Those in attendance included Command Master Chiefs, Senior Reserve Officers, Senior Enlisted Reserve Advisors, full time Reserve readiness staff (active duty and civilian), and others directly involved in Reserve management. Participants came from sectors and units within District Eight. Districts Seven and Nine also observed. Guest speakers from outside of District Eight included representatives and subject matter experts from the Pay and Personnel Center, Reserve Personnel Management, TRICARE, USERRA, and USCG Office of Performance Management.

District Eight Reserve Management Branch (dxr) received significant support from the Planning and Force Readiness Division (dx) to hold the workshop. Altogether the workshop was a success and resulted in strategic goals for FY 2012 in addition to a list of Reserve contingency C- schools that various units within the District's area of responsibility (and potentially in coordination with other districts) have committed to hosting within the next year.

Materials from the recent and previous Reserve readiness workshops are located on the CG Portal in the D8 (dxr) library at: <https://collab.uscg.mil/lotus/myquickr/d8-force-optimization-training-branch--dxr/library>

*Story and photo by
Lindsey M. Higginbotham, MPA
D8 New Orleans, Reserve Management Branch (dxr)*



Attendees of the Eighth District's 3rd annual Reserve readiness workshop at Sector New Orleans on August 26-28. The workshop brought together leaders and the Reserve management community to discuss Reserve-related matters and best practices.



BM3 Alex Merkle [Station Humboldt Bay, Reserve] running in the 'Turkey Trot' at McMurdo Station, Antarctica. He is currently serving as the Medical Officer at Pine Island Glacier, Deep Field Camp. You can follow his current adventure at: http://destination-uncertain.blogspot.com/2011_11_01_archive.html



Hanging Ten

YN3 Leonard Mastrogiacono competing in the 2011 World Fire and Police Games surfing competition, right after Hurricane Irene came through New York City. YN3 Mastrogiacono is a Detective on the New York Police Department in his civilian occupation and is assigned to the Station Shinnecock administration staff.

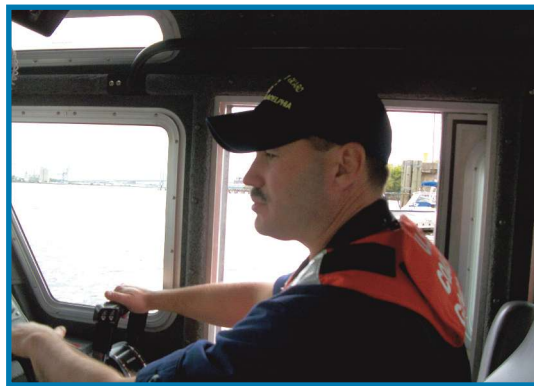
Photo by MST1 David Mastros

Out and About Sector Delaware Bay...



Ms. Gloria Townes leads Civil Rights training during All Hands at Sector Delaware Bay during September.

BMCM Joseph Katchko on patrol during weekend drill.



Station Manasquan reservists BMC Jay McChesney, BM3 Christopher Newcomb, BM3 Daniel Fogarty, and MK3 Patrick Dender conduct boarding in Shark River Inlet.

Reservists DC2 Joshua Seitzer and DC1 Christopher Blesi weld a brow for the CGC Cleat using Tungsten Inert Gas (TIG) welding. They received training on this type of welding from the Coast Guard to enhance both their professional development and mobilization readiness. In civilian life, DC1 Blesi is a project manager for urban development in Philadelphia and DC2 Seitzer is a teacher at York County School of Technology, teaching welding.



(l-r) CWO4 Thomas Mc Laughlin, USCGR (Ret.), BMC Adam Noorigian, USCG (OIC), MCPO James Testor, USN (Ret.)

U.S. Navy sings "Happy Birthday" to the U.S. Coast Guard

Following morning colors on August 4, 2011 two classes of U.S. Navy reservists attending the Global Maritime and Transportation Schools (GMATS) at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, NY, accompanied by the US Merchant Marine Band, marched down to USCG Station King Point to honor the U.S. Coast Guard by singing "Happy Birthday" on the 221st anniversary of its founding. This is the second annual tribute by the U.S. Navy Reserve Components attending classes at GMATS.

This 'tradition' was started by CWO4 Thomas Mc Laughlin, USCGR, (Ret), the electrical instructor for the U.S. Navy Seabees construction electricians and MCPO (SW) James Testor, USN, (Ret) the Professional Military Knowledge Instructor and former Coast Guardsman and USCG 82' Patrol Boat Viet-Nam (1967-1971) veteran.

The classes, totaling about 52 sailors, mustered in front of BMC Adam Noorigian, USCG, OIC, to sing "Happy Birthday" and presented him with a large cupcake with a candle to celebrate the strong bond between the two naval services.

**Story and photos by
CE1 John Reiley, III, USN
Surge Main Electric Class Leader**



USN P.M.K. class and USN Surge Main Electrical Class sing happy birthday to the Coast Guard.



Commander Christina M. Hosking performs and inspection at the change of command for Reserve Unit Marine Safety Office Boston, circa 1984.

Photo courtesy Marthea Fournier

Marthea Fournier, Cmdr. Hosking's sister, delivers the bequest of over \$125K to CGMA Director of Administration Mr. Ron Wolf. Ms. Fournier indicated that her sister took particular pleasure in and was proud of her service with the Coast Guard Reserve.

Photo courtesy Marthea Fournier



A Final Request

Former CG Reservist Bequest Benefits CGMA

Commander Christina M. Hosking, USCGR (Ret.) served proudly and with distinction in the Coast Guard Reserve for 20 years. That pride and dedication are reflected in Cmdr Hosking's bequest for more than \$125,000 to the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) in her last will and testament. "She always took great pride in her service with the Coast Guard Reserve," noted her sister, Ms. Thea Fournier, during her presentation of the bequest to CGMA Director of Administration Mr. Ron Wolf. "CGMA is extremely grateful to Commander Hosking," stated Mr. Wolf. "Knowing about her sense of adventure and fearless attitude, her gift will provide critical assistance for the community of service members she was so proud to serve alongside."

As reported in a back issue of the North Andover, Mass. based Eagle-Tribune, Cmdr. Hosking's service in the Reserve started on a lark. In 1965, she and her family went to visit her brother, John, who had just completed recruit training at Cape May, NJ. The article states, "Ms. Hosking facetiously remarked, 'This looks like fun!' Her brother challenged her to see for herself." She did. A decision that ultimately led to her being the first Reserve female promoted to the rank of commander in the CG's First District.

During her career she had numerous assignments in the First Coast Guard District including Reserve Group Boston, Vessels Group and finally as Commanding Officer of Reserve Unit Marine Safety Office Boston. ≈

The RESERVIST Celebrates THE YEAR OF THE Coast Guard Family





Photos from cgwi.uscg.mil

For Yellow Ribbon, ESGR and VA, Supporting Families of Deployed Members is an "Every" Year Mission

A deployment can be a stressful time for our Service members and their loved ones. Separation during these events brings up many questions, leading to anxiety on a variety of issues from personal finances to child rearing to significant shifts in daily responsibilities for those left behind. Initiatives such as the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program have helped Coast Guard reservists and their families manage the stressors that can accompany these deployments. In addition, organizations including the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and the Veterans Administration continue to deliver important services and programs to help reservists manage the difficult balance of family, service and civilian career.

As the official "Year of the Coast Guard Family" draws to a close, we will continue to work closely with our partners to ensure our readers receive the latest updates on programs and initiatives designed to provide the best support possible for reservists and their families -- now and in the future.



CG Innovation Expo highlights Year of the Family

Story by PA1 Judy Silverstein

For the past 11 years, the Coast Guard has hosted an Innovation Expo aimed at inspiring, encouraging and recognizing creative and cost-efficient problem-solving. This year was no different.

To showcase the array of services focusing on Coast Guard members and their families, the 2011 Coast Guard Innovation Expo in Tampa, Fla. held October 24-27, included booths full of member and family-centric information. That was especially important in this year of the Coast Guard Family, which was also an important sub-theme of the expo.

"It's been said that the health of Coast Guard families is a vital indicator of how we are doing," said Claudia Isaacoff, internal communications manager for Coast Guard Human Resources. "That's why our first mission is to ensure all members, employees and their families know about and understand what programs are available."

Booths spanned a wide range of services available to members of the Coast Guard family. Representatives from Work-Life offered information about child development services, vital to the productivity of military family members. The child development benefit is available to active duty, civilian, and reservist as well as retirees and their dependents. For more information, contact your regional Work-Life representative. However, it is worth noting that the Child Care Subsidy has been expanded to include active duty and active reservists called to active duty for 180 days or longer. Part of the success of the USCG program is its partnership with DOD childcare programs. Increased collaboration amongst the uniformed services is a goal that resonates with senior Coast Guard leadership who say childcare supports mission readiness.

"In my travels throughout the Coast Guard, I have witnessed firsthand the untold good that caring for our shipmates and their families produces," said Michael Leavitt, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard. "Taking care of the family allows our shipmates to serve with a clear mind and a renewed focus," he said.

The ombudsman program was also highlighted at this year's expo. Ombudsmen are volunteers providing a critical link between a unit's command and family members. In times of deployment, an ombudsman ensures accurate and timely communications. As such, the Coast Guard has hired Ms. Christine Degraw as a dedicated program manager to recruit, train, support, and retain a professional corps of volunteers. Reserve members are encouraged to tap into that resource.

Cmdr. Karl Leonard manned the Coast Guard Yellow Ribbon Program booth. "We fill a critical gap for Reserve family members and their families," he said.

It is something about which he's passionate.

"We connect members to available resources that address a host of issues and challenges their families may be facing," he said. "That could be child behavior issues following the deployment of a parent, to financial issues, or handling stress," Leonard said.



Cmdr. Karl Leonard, Coast Guard Yellow Ribbon Program Manager, stands at the Yellow Ribbon booth at the Coast Guard Innovation Expo, Oct. 25.

Photo by PA1 Judy Silverstein

An overhead photo of the booths and displays at the Coast Guard Innovation Expo, at the Tampa Convention Center, Oct. 25.



Photo by PA2 Patrick Kelley

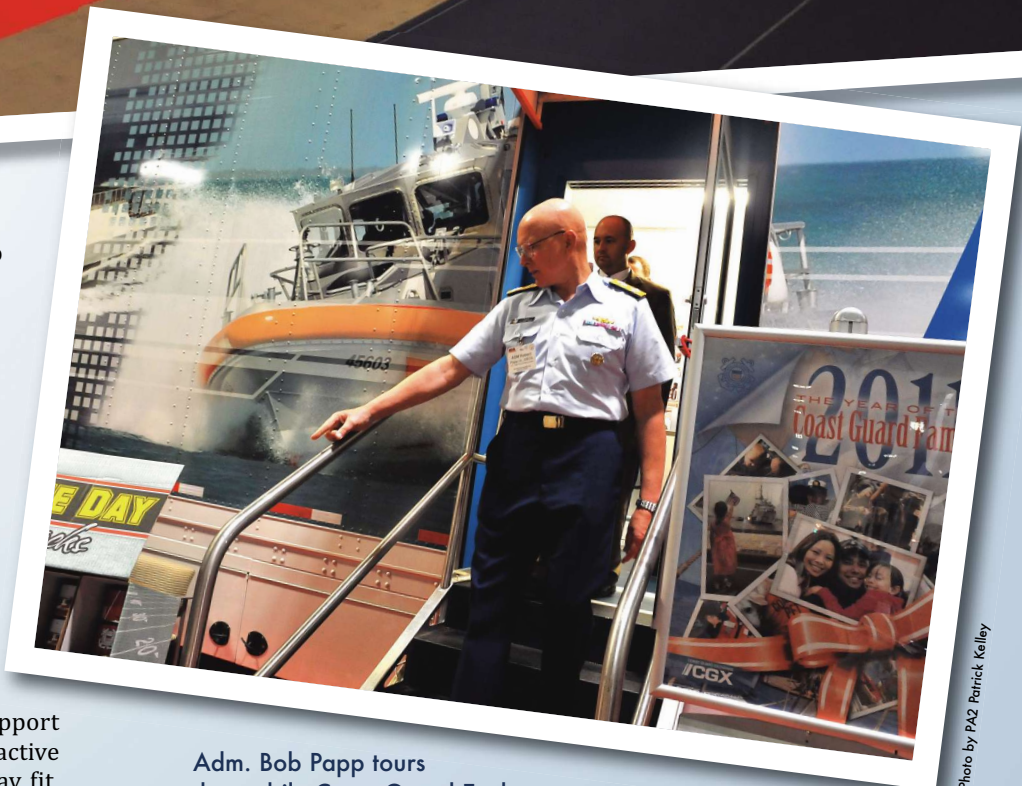
The program was established to ensure deploying members/ families connect with local resources before, during, and following deployments, to help build resilient members and families.

"The program has a strong focus on physical, mental and emotional well-being of member and family," Leonard said. "The important thing is that members and families understand they are not alone."

Isaacoff said the Year of the Family highlights the importance of being armed with resources and information.

"Mission support and member support allow civilian, auxiliary, reservist and active duty members of the Coast Guard to stay fit, both mentally and physically," she said.

In keeping with that theme, one of the more energetic displays, run by the Health



Adm. Bob Papp tours the mobile Coast Guard Exchange at the Coast Guard Innovation Expo, Oct. 25.

Photo by PA2 Patrick Kelley

Promotion Program, involved fist pumping music and exercises led by Capt. Richard Shumway, a physical therapist in the Coast Guard's Elizabeth City, N.C. clinic. In between demonstrations to groups of Coasties, he offered information on the importance of stretching and warming up before physical exertion.

"We're working on mobility and stability to try and reduce the chance of injury," he said.

His booth attracted a lot of onlookers and participants. So did the impressive 53-foot trailer, known as the Deployable Support Exchange, whose role is two-fold.

"We are completely self-sufficient, supporting and using generator power," said Scott Poteet, Buyer for the Community Services Command. "That means we can come to the aid of first responders who may need essential products during their deployment."

TRICARE information about expansion into young adult coverage was also offered at the expo. The landmark change allows for fee-based medical coverage for children up to 26 years. This extends healthcare coverage to Reserve family members, achieving parity with civilian counterparts under the Affordable Healthcare Act.

The Chaplain Corps was also on hand, featuring books and pamphlets in their booth. From pastoral care to financial and marital counseling, to deployment transition, chaplains offer a vast array of services for all members of the Coast Guard family. Their principal purpose is to "promote the spiritual, religious, moral, and personal well-being of the members of the Sea Service". Currently, there are 40 Active Duty and 11 Reserve Navy chaplains assigned to serve the Coast Guard and serve all faiths. There are Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Orthodox, Muslim, and Buddhist chaplains.

The deployable exchange supports first responders during emergency operations, offering services to those stationed in remote areas without ready access to a land-based exchange. Its premier launch occurred after Hurricane

Irene struck the east coast of the United States. That was followed up by a November tour along the Mississippi River. Offering uniform items, toiletries, snacks and beverages, it has been an instant hit with Coast Guard members.

In another area of the expo, representatives from ABSG demonstrated innovative features associated with Coast Guard Business Intelligence tracking tools. Reservists can register their home or civilian addresses into Direct Access. That allows the capability to receive monthly status updates and smoother tracking of training, skills assessment and general mandated training requirements.

Reservists should see a few other improvements on the horizon. Under the provisions of a recently-inked joint agreement between the Coast Guard and the State Department, provisions allow access to the Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER). The VLER is the Unified Health Record for active and former members of the Armed Services, accessed via the Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN). The goal is to improve the interface between privately and publicly stored health information, thereby improving access to vital data for practitioners and treatment for patients who currently or formerly served in the military. More information will be available in the coming months.

"We set up the booths as a way to let people know about the breadth of services offered. 2011 was designated the Year of the Coast Guard Family," said Isaacoff. "Yet the array of resources available should help members feel every year focuses on Coast Guard family and member support."

That's food for thought, according to Master Chief Leavitt.

"I'm pleased the exhibit hall showcased available services for all members of the Coast Guard family," he said. "As the Master Chief of all Coast Guard members, whether Active or Reserve, I know caring for the family helps us improve retention, performance, and well-being. That is why I encourage all reservists to become familiar with all the resources available." ≈



Photo by PA2 Patrick Kelley

Adm. Bob Papp visits one of the award winning booths at the Coast Guard Innovation Expo, Oct. 25.



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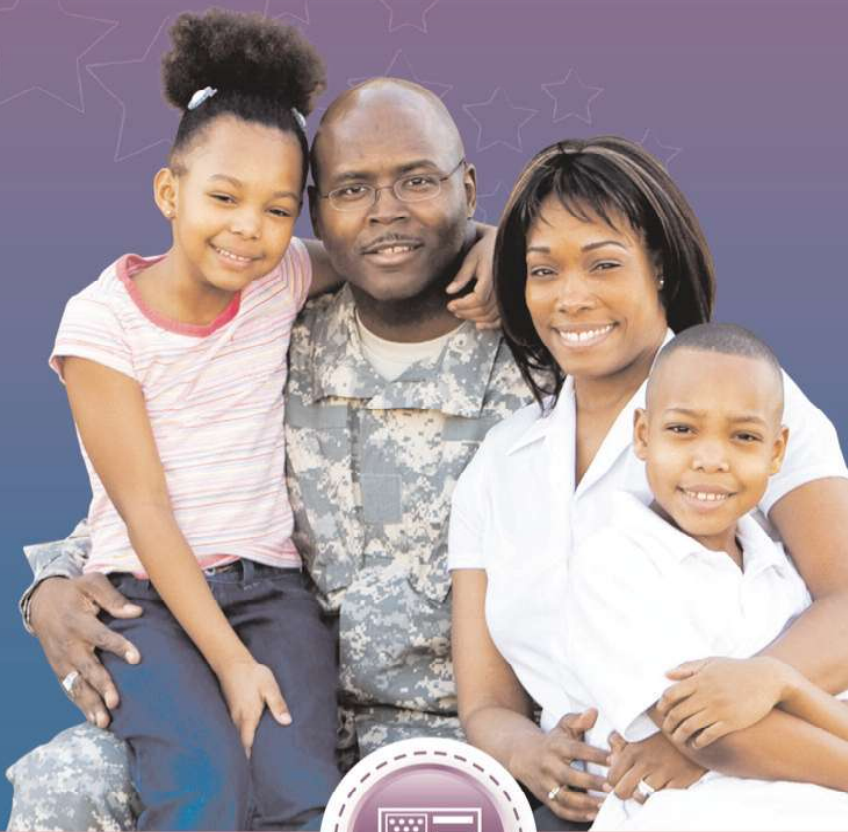
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Funded by DOD MWR Library Program and Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

New resource now available to Coast Guard Reserve members and their families!

The Department of Defense MWR Library Program and Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program provides online tutoring and homework help from Tutor.com at no charge to all Coast Guard Reserve members and their families.

This program allows K-12 and adult students to connect to a live tutor online at anytime for help with homework, studying, test prep, college coursework and more.

Access to the program is free and unlimited 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All students worldwide can use the program, regardless of where they attend school. Eligible military members can get details and create an account at www.tutor.com/military.

In addition to high school and college assistance, Tutors can also help students with GED preparation and studying for the citizenship exam. Bilingual tutors help Spanish speakers in math, science and social studies.

When registering Coast Guard members and their families must do so under the "NAVY" tab.

For more information contact Cmdr. Karl Leonard at 202.475.5461 or karl.s.leonard@uscg.mil or Kara Froman at 678.516.3667 or kfroman@tutor.com.

Coast Guard Yellow Ribbon Program Aims to Tackle a New Battlefield

Story by PA2 Elizabeth Bordelon

Master Chief Ryan Fahlencamp, CMC of the DOG, speaks with members during a break at a pre-deployment event in San Diego.



Photo by PA2 Bill Coldough

Lt. Thomas Holston of Port Security Unit 308 hugs his daughter at the Gulfport Army National Guard Base after returning from a six-month deployment to the Middle East, Feb. 27

provide up-to-date and relevant information to the members of the all-volunteer force and their families.

In 2010, the Coast Guard established the YRRP to ensure deploying Coast Guard members, families and others connect with local resources before, during, and after deployments. Through studies and surveys, the YRRP leadership determined that the best method to achieve its goals resided in multi-pronged, educational events, held during all phases of a deployment cycle. The first is a pre-deployment event held for the members and their families before deployment. That is followed by a mid-deployment event held specifically for those loved ones left behind.

The tear-streaked face of a child buried in the uniformed shoulder of his or her parent as the parent returns from war. That's the image, which, to many, says "the end." The parent made it home safely, so that's it, right? As far as Congress was concerned, it wasn't.

As part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, Congress mandated implementation of the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP). The Secretary of Defense was directed to establish the program and provide Reserve members and their families with sufficient information, services, referrals and proactive outreach opportunities throughout an entire deployment cycle as well as after deployments, especially during the reintegration phase that occurs months after service members return home. The Department of Defense works in conjunction with federal partners, including the Small Business Administration and Departments of Labor and Veterans Affairs, to



Photo by Cmdr. Karl Leonard

Then, when members return home, the reintegration phase begins. "Studies have shown that the toughest part of any deployment is that reintegration phase," said Cmdr. Karl Leonard, Yellow Ribbon manager. "During a program like this one, we focus on giving the members the tools to successfully reintegrate back into their civilian life with their spouse or significant other. We know from studies that post-traumatic stress disorder can start to surface at the 6-month mark. So, even that far out, after coming back, people are just starting to exhibit signs of PTSD. That's why this is a continual process."

Recently, a YRRP event was held in Orange Beach, Ala., for Coast Guard Port Security Unit 308 of Kiln, Miss. At first glance, one might not have known an event was happening. Even though they are part of a military organization, the members of YRRP don't wear uniforms to events and neither do their event participants. But there is a rationale behind this mandate. "It's intentional that nobody's in uniform," said Leonard. "Everyone's in civilian clothes because it's about the member. It's about the member's family. It's not about rank. It's not about chain of command. It's not about military structure. We want the focus to be squarely on the individual and his or her family."

"This was my sixth deployment and my first Yellow Ribbon Program. I learned a lot," said Cmdr. Stephen Browning, commanding officer of Port Security Unit 308. "My first deployment was in '90, '91 for Desert Storm. We got off the airplane, they handed us a release from active duty form and that was it. This was very informative. It's been great to find out the benefits and resources available that I didn't know existed. It would have been great to have had something like this before now. Especially with the chaplain's stuff, the VA stuff," Browning added. "I had no idea about any of that and now we have good phone numbers, resources and websites." Petty Officer 3rd Class Jabari Arnold agreed. "I've gotten a lot of information," said Arnold. "There are a lot of schools that take our benefits that I wasn't aware of. I've learned a bunch of stuff, good information to take in."

With hundreds of reservists returning from deployment every year, there will be many more welcome home celebrations, many more tear-streaked faces and relieved family members. But, when coming home, there will also be the threats of PTSD and financial, educational and work-life issues to contend with. As long as these threats exist, as long as brave Coast Guard reservists are risking their lives to keep America safe, the YRRP has a job to do. ≈



Photo by Cmdr. Karl Leonard

Members and their families take advantage of the many service providers on hand during one of the breaks.

Coast Guard and ESGR Recognize Great Employers

When Reserve Chief Warrant Officer Fred Eshelman was activated on a two-year contract with the Coast Guard Office of Boat Forces, his full-time civilian employer not only supported his rights and needs while he was away but also went above and beyond to ensure his mobilization was seamless.

"We rely heavily on the Coast Guard Reserve force as a necessary capability to support and ensure the safety and security of the nation," said Lt. j.g. Warren Fair, Coast Guard Office of Boat Forces. "When reservists are away from their regular job, it is important to know that their employers are supportive of their efforts. This allows them to fully focus on their assigned missions."

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Department of Defense organization, recognizes employers who provide outstanding support of service members. ESGR's vision is to develop and promote a culture in which all employers support and value the military service of their employees. Recently, the Coast Guard presented Eshelman's employer, UPS Mid Atlantic District, with an ESGR Patriot Award. "UPS has policies in place that go above and beyond what is required such as pay differential and continuation of medical benefits," said Eshelman. "Additionally, my boss understood my background with the Coast Guard would be a natural fit for my current assignment at UPS with the security department. It's a win-win situation."

Eshelman's boss even checked in on his family from time to time while he was gone. "While that may not be a big deal to some, it meant the world to me knowing that there was a support structure at the house that could help out if needed when I was away. He didn't have to do that," noted Eshelman.

Just as the Coast Guard relies on the flexibility and



Photo courtesy of Lt. j.g. Warren Fair.

The Coast Guard presented UPS Mid Atlantic District the Employer Support of Guard and Reserve Patriot Award Oct. 11, for outstanding support of Coast Guard Reservist CWO Fred Eshelman. From left to right: Thomas Wolfe, Fred Eshelman, Lt. j.g. Warren Fair and Rich Toth (UPS Mid Atlantic human resources).

responsiveness of the nearly 8,000 men and women who make up our Reserve workforce, the Reserves rely on their employers' support when they are called to serve. In this way, civilian employers play a critical role in helping to safeguard America's maritime interests at home and abroad.

Do you know an employer that deserves recognition for their leadership and personnel policies that support employee participation in the Guard and Reserve? If so, head over to the ESGR website for more information and nominate them for an award today.

**Story by Lt. Connie Braesch,
U.S. Coast Guard**

Note: Re-printed from Wednesday, October 19, 2011 On-line edition of Military.com



Reservist Presents Patriot Award to Editor

On Oct. 19, Lt. j.g. Michael Cole presented the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Patriot Award to Anne Sowards of Penguin Books. Ms. Sowards was the acquiring editor for Lt. j.g. Cole's forthcoming series (writing as Myke Cole). The ESGR Patriot Award is intended to recognize those employers who provide exemplary support to members of the Guard and Reserve.

**Story and photo courtesy
Lt. j.g. Michael Cole**



★

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Lifelong Learning:

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Story and Photos by PACM Thomas J. Cowan

You don't know what you don't know until you learn it! That is what I am learning at a yearlong professional development program for my civilian job. There have been times in my Coast Guard and my civilian career with the Air Force where I thought I had enough knowledge and skills to take me into retirement. It turns out I was wrong. I understand now why the Coast Guard has a leadership and professional development site, where lifelong learning is an attribute of leadership. The challenges Coast Guardsmen face in the 21st century requires the best from us and a continually developing workforce is fundamental to our future.

I am presently in an academic program offered by the Air Force's Air University. The Air Command and Staff College bestows a Masters of Operational Military Art and Science degree upon graduates. Originally, I questioned the 'art' part of military operations. Where does 'art' play into the kind of work the Coast Guard and the other DoD services perform? What I have learned through the study of military history and leadership is that those

men and women, military and civilian, who have achieved our greatest successes, did so more with the creative application of the tools available at the time than adherence dogma. The 'art' part is the combination of tactical competence with common sense and innovation. There are many Coast Guard examples of the employment of operational art where we responded creatively to unique challenges. The question to ask yourself is, are you one capable of operational art?

If all you are comfortable with is present doctrine then you might not be ready for operational art. Over the last five months I have studied and written about international security, military history and operations, joint warfare, leadership, command and communication, Arabic culture and insurgency to name a few. The Arabic culture course is a reflection of operational art. A realization through the study of past military failures and a few successes, is that effective counterinsurgency requires a thorough understanding of local culture. Learning breeds innovation,



Left: PACM Thomas J. Cowan (far left) competes in an event at the Warrior Day Physical Fitness Competition.

Below: Cowan (Standing, third from right) with some of his classmates in an Air Force professional development program.



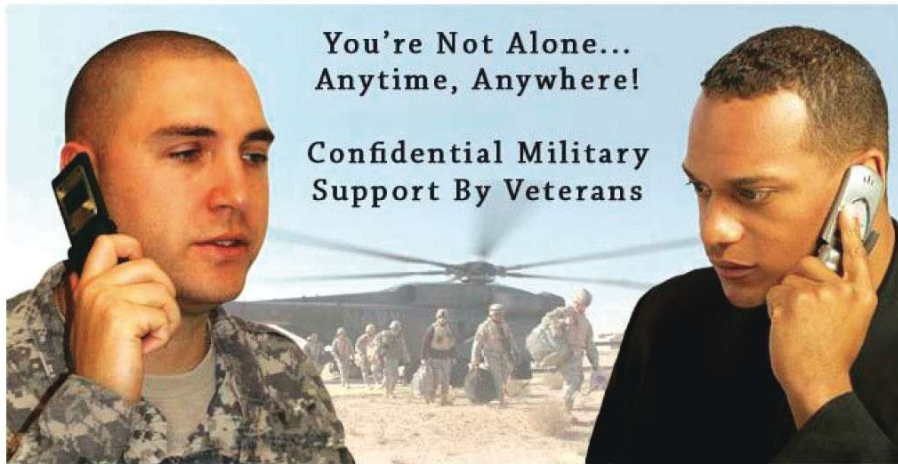
innovation leads to change and change allows us to adapt to new challenges.

There are other ways to develop personal competencies through lifelong learning besides a formal degree. Look for new Coast Guard assignments. Do not wait for the normal rotation cycle to end, apply for a new assignment that will test your abilities. The enlisted force should look at Gold, Silver and SERA positions. Many of you have the core skills to perform these jobs. Now it is only a question of accepting the responsibility. There are enlisted and officer positions in Port Security Units. These are great opportunities to develop your leadership and management skills. Inevitably, continual learning, through school or new responsibilities will take you out of your comfort zone. The uneasiness dissipates as you learn, refine your skills and grow as a leader.

Other steps toward continual learning are to find someone in a job you would like and ask for mentorship. The senior

enlisted and officers corps is full of potential mentors looking to help others develop. Take advantage of the opportunity. You can also read books, articles and journals about subjects such as leadership, history, current events, present and future maritime challenges, and more. A good place to start is the Commandant's reading list on the Leadership and Professional Development web site at www.uscg.mil/leadership/resources/readinglist.asp. You will find a valuable selection of books pertinent to the lifelong learner. If the Commandant was your mentor, I am confident that he would tell you to read more.

We are all responsible for developing a Coast Guard that is continually getting stronger and more effective. Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." Aspire to be a lifelong learner, a personal characteristic that will enrich your life and serve you well in your Coast Guard and civilian career. After all, you don't know what you don't know until you learn it! ≈



Why Call Us?

We are here to help. We have all served in uniform for the United States Military. Some members of our staff have served in combat missions while others have served in supporting and peace keeping missions. However, we are all Veterans of the United States Military and we are all here to help the men and women who are currently serving or have served in the National Guard and Reserve.

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Improving Financial Stewardship: How the Coast Guard's Audit Affects Reservists' Personnel Data Record (PDR)

Have you ever been audited? If you haven't been audited yet, there's a good chance your Personnel Data Record (PDR) will be soon.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, the Coast Guard reached the first of several financial accountability milestones when it successfully withstood audit of its balance sheet (sort of like a master check book) by an independent accounting firm. The FY 2011 audit, conducted by international accounting firm KPMG, represented the fruition of several years of hard work and perseverance by active duty, Reserve and civilian Coast Guard personnel across the country. In 2012, the financial audit will expand to include an in-depth assessment of the accuracy, completeness and validity of our accounting processes. Since payroll processes represent about 40% of the Coast Guard's total budget, this area is of keen interest to our external auditors. To ensure that the Coast Guard is ready for this additional scrutiny, the Coast Guard's Office of Financial Transformation and Audit Remediation, COMDT (CG-85) is helping to review of the Service's payroll.

So what does this mean to you as a reservist? It means that your home unit Servicing Personnel Office (SPO) has been implementing an intensive check of your PDR file to ensure that all required payroll-related documentation is present. Required documentation related to payroll transactions includes copies of a reservist's birth certificate, marriage certificate, dependent's birth certificates, social security card, and a current set of orders. If your file is missing any of these items, your SPO will ask you to provide new copies for your PDR file in order to ensure this documentation exists and is both accurate and readily available. Mr. Wes Johnson, the COMDT (CG-85) lead for this record review notes: "Our accountability to the public requires us to verify that every item on a reservist's Leave & Earnings Statement (LES) is accurate and fully supported. The need for a review of our members' records to check for accuracy was recognized in January 2011, when an assessment of personnel files showed that less than one out of every six members' payroll transactions had sufficient support documentation."

How does your personal information affect the Coast Guard's payroll? One example is if you are a married reservist serving on short term active duty, such as ADOS or Title 10/Title

14. If your PDR file gets selected for audit and does not contain your marriage license, there is no documentation on file to support your eligibility for receiving BAH with dependents, and thus it may become a payroll issue. Complicating the issue is that many Coast Guardsmen, active duty and reservists alike submitted these required documents at different times throughout their careers. However, prior to the 2003 financial audits, SPOs were instructed to return those documents to the members and not to retain them in PDRs. Times change and new financial audit scrutiny brings a new requirement to retain those documents in the PDRs. So while it might be an extra hassle to respond to your SPO's request for personal records in the short term, in the long term this validation process will make it easier for you and more efficient for the Coast Guard as a whole to ensure proper financial accountability and record keeping.

The long term goal of the PDR record review team is to have copies of all of these important documents uploaded and retained electronically as part of every reservist's digital PDR file, which will eliminate the need to transfer or retain paper copies in the future. Over the next year, SPOs will be converting all paper-based PDRs to electronic format that will be maintained at the Personnel Service Center in Ballston, VA. Then, when you move, your new SPO will already have access to all your documents.

For additional information on the Coast Guard's Fiscal Year 2012 audit, including an audit help guide, visit the Office of Financial Transformation and Compliance (CG-85) at www.uscg.mil/hq/cg8/cg85/.

*Story by
Lt. Thomas Baker, CG-85*



Bulletin Board

JOINING FORCES INITIATIVE

First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden are leading a national effort call "Joining Forces" to rally the American people to action in support of military families, services members and veterans. Joining Forces is focused on energizing the broad spectrum of America including individuals, communities, businesses, philanthropists, non-profits and faith-based organizations to give our military families, personnel and veterans the support they have earned during nearly 10 years of war.

To learn more about this national initiative visit the www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces.

You can also register for e-mail updates as well as follow along on Facebook and Twitter at: www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces/stay-connected.



Coast Guard Reception

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DC Reserve Officers Association Chapter

Reserve Officers Association's
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at the

Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel.

The reception will start at 4:30 with an awards program beginning at 5 PM. The program will conclude in time for folks wishing to attend the opening of the Exposition Hall at 6 PM.

There will be a cash bar
with no additional cost to attend.

Attire is Service Dress or civilian business
with Dinner Dress Blue uniform optional.

RSVPs are not required.

Questions can be sent to LCDR Ben Perman at:
perman_benjamin@bah.com.



BMCM Lisa A. McCawley received the Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Award from the Bluegrass Military Affairs Coalition in Lexington, Kentucky on May 21, 2011. Master Chief McCawley was cited for her superior leadership in training 139 Enlisted Reservists at Sector Ohio Valley and ensuring the full readiness of the Sector Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART) prior to the Inland Rivers flooding season last Spring. The award was presented at the Kentucky annual Armed Forces Day Dinner by Col. Paul Sarat, Jr., US Army, Deputy Commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Action Team, 101st Airborne Division and Thomas W. Baker, Chairman of the Board of the BMAC. Master Chief McCawley was nominated for the award by CDR Rich McLoughlin, Senior Reserve Officer at Sector Ohio Valley.

Photo by YN3 Amy Seucci



Ahead of an upcoming CENTCOM deployment to support Operation New Dawn in Kuwait, PSU 305 attended A-14 training at Fort Dix, NJ. The Advance Party attended from 26 Sep to 26 Oct and the Main Body from 24 Oct to 23 Nov 2011. During the 31-day course, PSU members gained experience in mounted/dismounted patrols, land navigation, and Counter-IED. A-14 culminated in a 3-day Collective Training exercise at a simulated Forward Operating Base (FOB), where students learned Entry Control Points (ECPs), mounted convoys and base defense drills.



Did you know?

To protect the safety of Service members and their families' personal identity information, the DoD is removing the Social Security Number (SSN) from DoD ID cards.

Removal will Occur in Three Phases:

Phase One: Remove Dependent SSNs
(Already in progress)

Phase Two: Remove all printed SSNs
(As of June 2011)

Phase Three: Remove SSNs embedded in barcodes
(To begin during calendar year 2012)

Note: ID Cards will not be reissued or replaced until your current card expires. Existing cards remain valid until expiration. ID Cards with an INDEF expiration date displaying an SSN may be replaced by contacting a RAPIDS Site for an appointment to have a new ID issued.

Earlier this year (L-R) Master Chief Petty Officers Ken Roche, John Niece and Mike Rowan met at the USCG Academy to celebrate MCPO Rowan's advancement to E-9. All three MCPO's attended the same high school, St John the Baptist in West Islip, NY and graduated in 3 consecutive years (1980, 81, 82).

Photo by MCPO Mike Rowan

Medals and Awards



Defense Meritorious Service Medal
Cmdr. John Hartzell



Meritorious Service Medal
Cmdr. Daniel Precourt
Lt. Timothy Pratt



Coast Guard Commendation Medal
MSTC Brian Howley
YNCS Lisa Hoff
Lt. Mike Gulla
Cmdr. Daniel Precourt
Cmdr. Sean O'Brien
Lt. Christopher Kerr
Lt. Cmdr. Cecilio Banuelos



Coast Guard Achievement Medal
YN3 Katy Robbins
ME3 Jakub Cwiek
BM3 Dean Decoste
BM2 Harry Pinti
MST2 Edward Akerley
MEC Jason Kookan
Lt. James Trifiro
Lt. Cmdr. Marc Devereaux
Cmdr. Matthew Stuck
Cmdr. John Hartzell
ME3 Joseph Gerard
BM1 Kenneth Godfrey
MK1 Derek Holmes
ME1 Brian Preston
MK1 Everett Priestley
MECS Robert Young, Jr.
SK3 Charles Barley



CG Letter of Commendation
MST2 Jesse Mushenko
MST2 Benjamin Webster
MST1 Julia Kaiser
ME1 David Krikorian
MSTCM Brian Digman
Lt. j.g. Diana Ventura
Lt. Dwight Thompson
Lt. Timothy Pratt
YN1 Sharon Zywicki
ME3 Sean Sweeney-Jones
BM1 Lawrence Clark
MK1 Joseph Dadamo
ME2 Debbie Lipscomb



Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal
Lt. Robyn Swan



MK3 Douglas Acker (left) is advanced to MK2 during August drill weekend. MK2 Acker has been in the USCGR for six years and is currently attached to USCG Station Jones Beach. He is pictured here with fellow shipmate and life-long friend BM3 Adam Grohman.

Photo by BMC Jonah Romanitch



MECM Wayne P. Cogan receives a commemorative sword during his official retirement ceremony at the National World War II Museum, Dec. 9. Cogan has served in the New Orleans area for all 42 years of his Coast Guard career.

Photo by PA3 William Benson.



Coast Guard Station St. Inigoes, MD former shipmates and families enjoyed a reunion on Oct. 22, at nearby Solomans Island. Pictured are (left to right, back row) Brenda (Sea Scout), Mrs. Yeckley; BM1 Bill Barker, USCGR(ret); CWO Dalton Wood USCGR (ret); Lt. Tim Pannone, USCGR (ret); PSCS Doug Yeckley, USCGR (ret); Capt. Dale Rausch, USCGR (ret); PSC Gene Beach, USCGR (ret); PSC Yancy Woodward, USCGR (ret); (front row) MCPO-CGRF Mark Allen; Mrs. Colleen Whelan; and Mrs. Sally Wood.

Photo courtesy of MCPO-CGRF Mark Allen

Capt. Chuck Polk retires after 40 years



Captain Chuck Polk, a native of Louisville, KY retired after more than 40 years of service and chose Sector Ohio Valley (SOHV) for his ceremony so his Coast Guard career would end where it began. After graduating from basic training and Port Security "A" School, Captain Polk served at Reserve Units Louisville and

Nashville from 1970-81. During his career, Captain Polk served on Active Duty several times, most recently in 2011 at the Atlantic Area Command in Portsmouth, VA. More than 60 current and former shipmates along with family and friends attended the ceremony at American Legion Zachary Taylor Post 180.

Taps



Members of MSO Chicago (now MSU-Chicago) original Sea Partners pose for a reunion picture following MST1 John Lamar's retirement ceremony, Sept. 11. (L-R) MST2 Karl Kuhn, USCGR (ret); Mr. Jay Katzman, AUX; Cmdr. Glenn Cekus, USCGR (ret); MST1 John Lamar, USCGR (ret); CWO2 Mark Razny, USCGR; MSTC Kenneth Brockhouse, USCG; and, MSTC John Vick, USCGR.

Photo courtesy AUX Jay Katzman



MECM Katrina Hutcherson, USCGR decided to make her final enlistment a family legacy by selecting her eldest, son 1LT Sean Fisher, USAF to administer the oath. Master Chief Hutcherson's father, CAPT George Farnan, USN, (Retired) helped close the loop on a family legacy that he originated when he swore his daughter into the Coast Guard on February 15, 1981. Also on hand was Master Chief Hutcherson's spouse, OSCM Scott Hutcherson, USCGR.

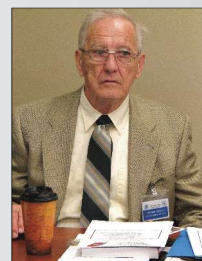
Photo by Kim Yanoshik



CWO2 Cindy Eisen (center) stands by her daughters, YNC Sarah Case (also selected for CWO) and MST1 Katherine Linnick, after her promotion ceremony held at Hangar 41, Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi. Eisen has created quite a Coast Guard family, including her daughters and sons-in-laws OS1 Michael Case and CWO2 James Linnick, a nephew DC1 Clifford Morgan and a grandson SN Anthony Combs, serving in the Coast Guard.

Photo by Lt. Cmdr. Paul Morris

• **PSCM Adrian H. Rymer**, 82, retired Coast Guard Senior Master Chief and D.C. Metropolitan Police Department. He passed away peacefully into God's loving arms surrounded by his family. He is survived by his loving wife Tomoko of sixty years, three children; Flo (Bill), Karen, Michael (Joan) and five grandchildren, Adria, Allison, Chris, Hillary and Noah. MCPO Rymer served as a member of the Coast Guard Retiree Council.



• **SPAR / YN2 Elizabeth "Betty" Augherton**, 89, passed away very peacefully on October 24, 2011. She was 89, a wonderful lady who absolutely loved the USCG, and attended many Flags Across America events at Arlington National Cemetery the last few years. She was the beloved wife for 59 years of Thomas G. Augherton, Sr.; mother of Thomas G. Augherton, Jr. and his wife, Lynn Dodd of Cave Creek, AZ, Ann Augherton and her husband, Christopher Gunty of Arlington, VA and the late Martin F. Augherton. Also surviving is her grandchild, Kelly Anne Augherton.



• **Capt. John Rump**, USCGR (Ret.), 77, passed away on Oct. 19, 2011. Born in Malden, Massachusetts, July 19, 1934, to John and Alice Rump, John Rump grew up loving basketball, the Boston Celtics and the Boston Red Sox. He attended Malden High School where he was known for his involvement in many activities and was a scholar athlete. He excelled as a leader on and off the basketball court, an attribute that would be a hallmark of his life. Upon graduating from high school, John joined the United States Navy in 1952. His dedicated and decorated service was highlighted by the historic events of June 22, 1955 when the P2 Neptune air reconnaissance plane he was serving aboard was shot down over Kodiak, Alaska, by Soviet fighter jets. The plane crashed and John along with his commander and other crew members rescued their fellow crew from the burning wreckage, assuring that all the men would survive this ordeal and ensure many happy reunions with his crewmates. Serving his country in the Navy fostered an additionally celebrated and decorated career for John as he joined the United States Coast Guard Reserve in 1964, spending time over the next twenty-eight years at the USCG Reserve Training Center at Yorktown and USCG Station, Boston. In 1984 John achieved the rank of Captain and retired with honors. A Funeral Service was held on Sunday, October 23 in the Chapel at the USCG Reserve Training Center in Yorktown, VA. Internment at Arlington National Cemetery will take place at a time to be determined.



• **SK3 Harry W. Moore**, 83, passed away on June 6, 2011 in Farmersville, IL. Born November 29, 1927, Mr. Moore entered the U.S. Coast Guard at the age of 17 on May 11, 1945 in St. Louis Mo. He aboard the Coast Guard Cutter *Northland* where his first patrol was to Greenland to collect weather data that was then used to produce a weather forecast for the allied troops in the European theatre. He was awarded the Arctic Service Medal. On May 15, 1946 the Coast Guard was released from the Navy and turned back over to the U.S. Treasury Department which quickly determined that Reserve members would no longer be needed on active duty. Three days later on May 18, 1946 Mr. Moore was ordered back to St. Louis, MO for out-processing and received an Honorable Discharge. He was extremely proud of the time that he served his country in the United States Coast Guard.

Letters (cont.)

However, I must inform you that because of an inaccurate statement in the current Reservist issue I am very disappointed. The statement I am referring to appears on page 21 directly underneath the picture of PS2 Vincent Danz. It reads "He died while responding to the World Trade Center Attack." It is my understanding that Police Officer Vincent Danz was killed in the line of duty at the World Trade Center. He was killed along with 13 other brave members of the New York City Police Department Emergency Service Unit who were involved in the rescue operation at the World Trade Center.

The choice of words "while responding" makes it appear that Vincent Danz might have died in a vehicle accident enroute to the site. The words under his name should have been more carefully and accurately chosen to read much like those of MK1 Jeffrey Palazzo, a New York City firefighter who also was killed in the line of duty on 9/11.

Please make every effort to correct this serious error in the next issue of the Reservist.

MCPO R.E. Swanson, USCGR (Ret.)

Note: Master Chief, we appreciate your heartfelt passion regarding the words used in our remembrance of Vincent Danz. For the record there should be no ambiguity in the fact that Vincent died in the line of duty while attempting to help others escape from the World Trade Center towers. For his heroic efforts he was posthumously awarded the New York City Police Department Medal of Honor. — JDS

CORRECTIONS:

Just FYI and you may have heard this already. The graphic used for the Defense Superior Service Medal awarded to CAPT J. Anderson (pg. 32, Issue 4 2011) is incorrect. What is shown is the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

CDR David Teska



Note: Cmdr., you are correct. Thanks! — JDS

LAKES NOT STATES...

My wife and I have finally arrived at our place in Sarasota FL after leaving our home in Niagara Falls NY. Cold, winter weather no longer agrees with either of us. We picked up our mail at the Post Office and I just finished reading my copy of the Reservist.

With regards to Cmdr. Hayes recollection of his shipboard training on 255's, I'm sure he meant the *Minnetonka*, not the *Minnesota*. Although not a 255 sailor, I know that they were named after lakes, not states.

Paul Dragone

*Former Taney, 95310 and Magnolia crewmember.
(A long, long time ago.)*

Note: Mr. Dragone, you are right, and we can see where the confusion may have come from. According to our research the *Minnetonka* was built by Western Pipe & Steel at the company's San Pedro shipyard. Originally christened *Sunapee*, she was renamed the *Minnetonka* after Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota and commissioned as a patrol gunboat with ID number WPG-67 on 11 July 1946. Her ID was later changed to WHEC-67 (HEC for "High Endurance Cutter" - the "W" signifies a Coast Guard vessel). Thanks for setting the record straight. — JDS

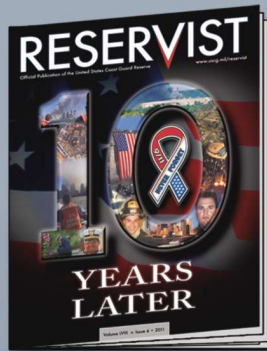


Digital Age (cont.)

As we have stated previously, there are numerous reasons and advantages in moving to a digital only format: more timely communications thru the use of new and developing technologies, more efficient use of increasingly limited resources. That said, we also realize not everyone we serve has the desire or ability to go digital. Some lack computers or reliable access to the world-wide web. Others simply prefer the feel of the magazine between their fingers as they explore its contents from cover to cover. It is our intent to continue to monitor and evaluate our overall communications efforts and specifically the Reservist Magazine to ensure we maintain the proper balance between the goals and objectives of the Reserve Program and the needs and wishes of our diverse and growing audience.

To this end we will continue with a blend of print and digital during calendar year 2012. Beginning with this issue we will be providing readers with the option to assist our efforts to reduce our substantial print and mailing costs by voluntarily opting out of receiving future print editions beginning with Issue 1, 2012, scheduled for publication in February. We are also planning to introduce the new Reservist web site that same month. The goal of the new web site is easier navigation and a more useful tool to those looking for Reserve news. Issue 2 (April 2012) will be on-line only with Issues 3 and 4 returning to both print and on-line. The final issue for 2012 will again be on-line only.

During the year we will be exploring other ways to communicate both the magazine content and other news of importance to our readers. We hope to be able to harness the power of social media to engage our audience in meaningful and valuable ways. We ask that you join us in the journey and help us to enhance and build on the fine legacy of Reservist Magazine.



If you currently enjoy reading the Reservist on-line, we are giving you the opportunity to be a part of our digital transition. You can help us reduce print and mail costs by supporting our green initiative and “Opting Out” of the printed version of the magazine. For more information and instructions please visit the Reservist online.



www.uscg.mil/RESERVIST

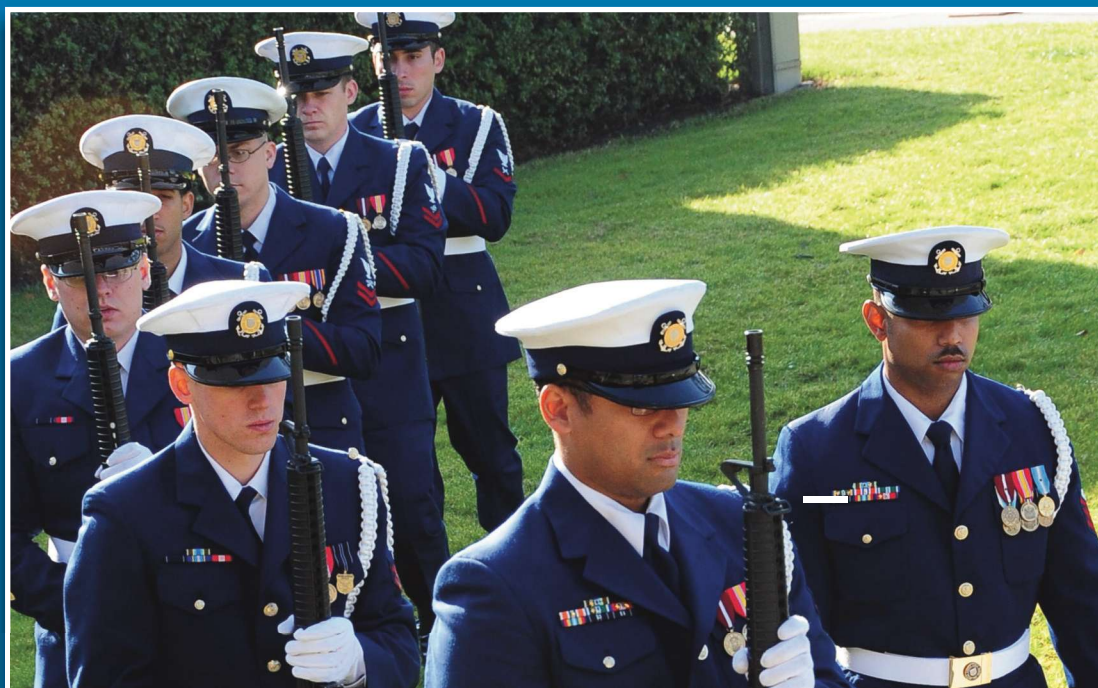
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Parting Shots

Remembering the 70th Anniversary of the Attacks on Pearl Harbor.



The Base Support Unit Alameda Special Rifle Detail marches past the Point Welcome Room during a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony held on Coast Guard Island, Wednesday, Dec. 7. The ceremony was the 10th collaborative ceremony between BSU Alameda and Chapter Two of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

Photo by PA2 Levi Read



Petty Officer 3rd Class Vinh Mai, of Base Support Unit Alameda, plays taps on a bugle during a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony held on Coast Guard Island, Wednesday, Dec. 7.

Photo by PA2 Levi Read



John Rauschkolb, a Pearl Harbor survivor, salutes the American Flag during a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony held on Coast Guard Island, Wednesday, Dec. 7. Five survivors and members of Chapter Two of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association attended the 70th anniversary commemoration.

Photo by PA2 Levi Read

The Commandant Adm. Bob Papp and retired U.S. Marine Thomas Talbott prepare to lay a wreath in the Baltimore Inner Harbor during a Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony and reception aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Taney in Baltimore Dec. 7. Talbott is one of the last remaining survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Photo by PA2 Patrick Kelley



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Standing Lookout

By DC2 Jesse Dixon

Standing lookout with my two watchful eyes
gazing upon the blue sea

Miles away from the ones I love I serve aboard *RUSH*
like my father before me.

I'm a Coastie and here on this rusty vessel,
my four hour watch has begun.

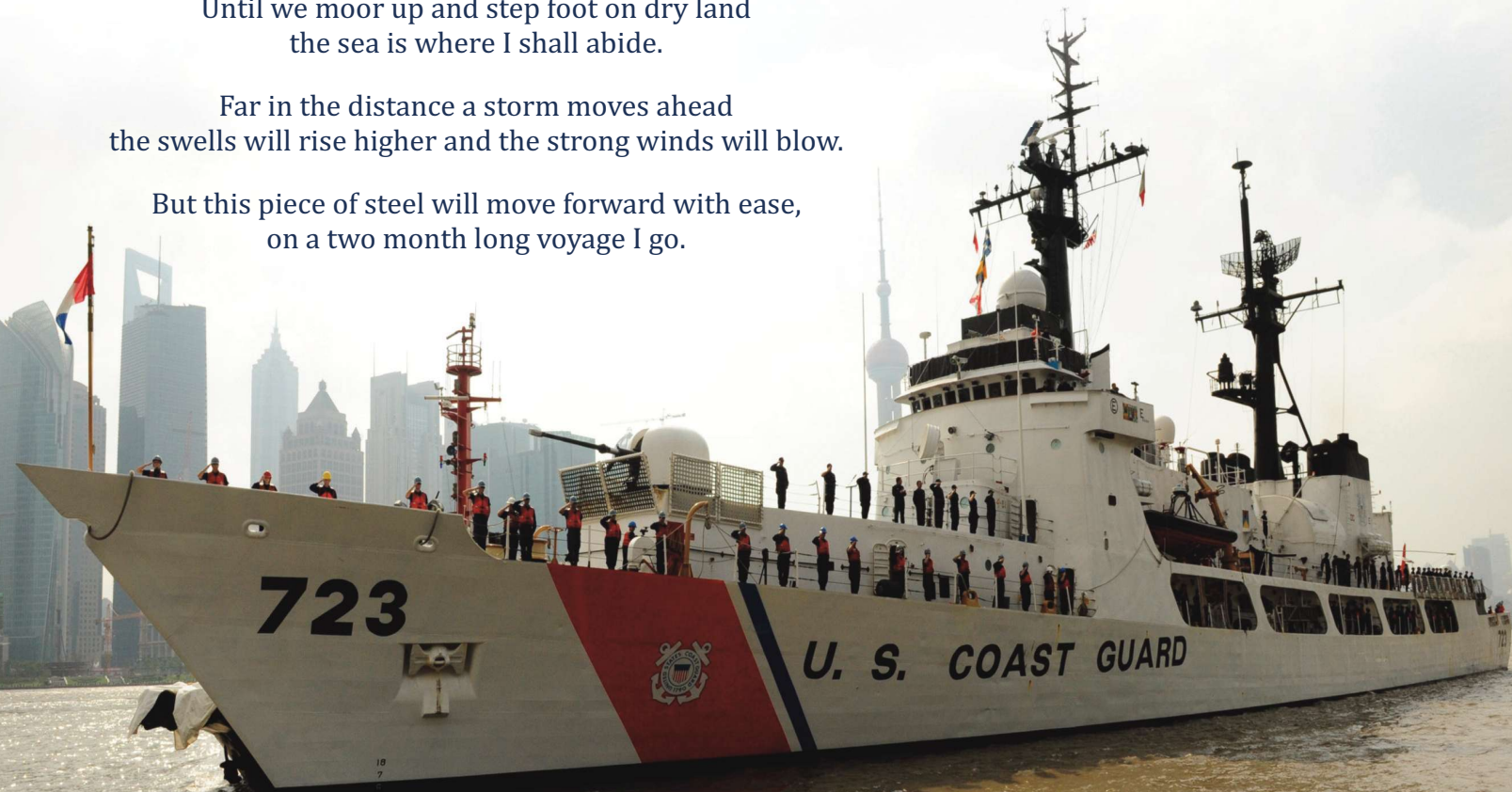
I lean on those bug eyes and feel that cool breeze
as we sail east towards a bright morning sun.

Watching an albatross fly high above
the dolphins swim alongside.

Until we moor up and step foot on dry land
the sea is where I shall abide.

Far in the distance a storm moves ahead
the swells will rise higher and the strong winds will blow.

But this piece of steel will move forward with ease,
on a two month long voyage I go.



Note: DC2 Jesse Dixon is a member of the Coast Guard Reserve stationed in Miami Beach, FL. He authored this poem entitled "Standing Lookout" which captures, in part, his experience during a patrol aboard the CGC Rush.